

WEDNESDAY EVENING WORSHIP
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Nurture with Love, Serve with Hope
OCTOBER 14, 2020 **PASTOR ELAINA SALMON**

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Litany

P Draw us into your love, O Lord.

C **Quiet my soul so that I may rest in you.**

P Dear God, thank you for all that is good,
for our creation and our humanity,
for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth,
for the gifts of life and of one another,
for your love which is unbounded and eternal.

O most holy and beloved,
my Companion, my Guide upon the way,
my bright evening star.

We repent that wrongs we have done:

(silence)

P We have wounded your love,

C **O God, heal us.**

P We stumble in faithfulness,

C **Transfigure us.**

P We forget that we are your home.

C **Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

P Eternal Spirit, living God,
In whom we live and move and have our being,
All that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you,
to the very secret of our hearts
and all that rises to trouble us.
Living flame, burn into us,
cleansing wind, blow through us,
fountain of water, well up within us,
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

C **Amen.**

P We call upon you, O God; come to us quickly.

C **Listen to our voices when we call to you.**

P Let our prayer rise up before you like incense.

C **May our prayer be our evening sacrifice.**

(based on Psalm 141:1-2)

Gathering Song *“Let My Prayer Rise Up”* #232

*Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.*

*O God, I call to you, come to me now;
oh, hear my voice when I cry to you.
Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.*

*Keep watch within me, God;
deep in my heart may the light of your love
be burning bright.
Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.*

*All praise to the God of all--Creator of life;
all praise be to Christ and the Spirit of love.
Let my prayer rise up like incense before you,
the lifting up of my hands as an offering to you.*

(a moment of silence)

Lectio Divina: Psalm 6

Lectio Divina means "sacred reading." It is a way of praying with scripture. The Psalm will be read three times. After each reading, take a moment of silence before responding. Response can be offered aloud or in the chat feature. The first time through, listen for a word or phrase that stands out to you or resonates with your spirit. The second time, look for an image. What do you see? Finally, the last time it is read, listen for God's invitation. What is God inviting you to? The lovely thing about lectio divina is that there are no wrong answers!

O my Beloved, though I have turned from You,
 continue to enfold me with your love;
Be gracious to me, Heart of my heart,
 for I am sad and weary.
Surround me with your healing Light,
 that my body, mind, and soul might heal.
How long must I wait, O Love?

I open the door of my heart to You,
 my Beloved,
Enter in and imbue me with your steadfast Love.
I shall remember You all my days;
I shall sing praises to You throughout the nights.

I am tired of so many fears;
I cry myself to sleep at night;
 grief and feelings of guilt
 bedim my eyes with tears;
All my doubts, my fears, are creating walls
 so that I know not love.

Depart from me,
 you enemies of wholeness,
 for the Beloved is aware of my cry;
Love has heard my prayer;
 and hastens to answer my call.
Though my fears are running for cover,
 yet they shall be transformed
 by Love;
All that was in darkness shall come
 into the Light.

Prayers of the People

Song *“God of Mercy, Hold Us in Love”*

P May God kindle in us the fire of love to bring us alive and give warmth to the world.
C **Lead us from death to life,
 from falsehood to truth;**
P lead us from despair to hope,
 from fear to trust;
C **lead us from hate to love,
 from war to peace.**
P Let peace fill our heart.
C **Let peace fill our world. Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer from The New Zealand Prayer Book

C **Eternal Spirit,
 Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
 Source of all that is and that shall be,
 Father and Mother of us all,
 Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

P Christ be within us to keep us,
Beside us to guard,
Before us to lead,
Behind us to protect,
Beneath us to support,
Above us to bless. Amen.

Sending

P Go in peace.
C **Christ is with us. Thanks be to God.**

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Joanne Bauer	Frank Iwan	Omni Rook Myers
Rev. Glenn Bergmark	Nancy Iwan	Leona Nelson
Sharon Bolerjack	Janice Johnson	Frank Roy
Yvonne Borkhuis	Jerry Johnson	Ranada Rymkus
Evelyn Cahill	Monica Johnson	Ben Sabourin
Sean Clark	Norma Johnson	Rani Sachi
John Michael Clatto	Peyton Kirk	Bernie Schroeder
Gary Cobbett	Lenny Kobilca	Kerri Schroeder
Ginny Connelly	Dana Koll	Tim Schroeder
Rudy Cozzi	Virgie Kwasneski	Virginia Schroeder
Beau Dowling	Sue Lucheon	John Shea
Jim Driscoll	Scott Lundgren	Stella Slowik
Finley Engnell	Dede Machowski	Gene Sobba
Brianna Freehauf	Liz Martinez	Vivian Tiemeier
The Halama Family	Glenn McAdam	Sherri Vick
Julie Hayes	Paula McCoy	Kyle Williams
Marie Heeren	Jim McKeever	Kelli Wilson
Dan Herzing	Frank Miller	Justin Wormsley
Mike Hoffman	Dennis Murphy	Stephanie Wormsley

For Sean Acosta, Dustin Johnson, Steve Kleinfelder, Patrick Naughton, Chad Peters, Mitch Pohlman and all others serving our country and their families.

For those we name in our hearts, and for those who have not yet found Jesus.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US SUNDAY FOR A HEALING SERVICE — We may be in need of God's healing touch in body, mind, or spirit. We bring our need before Christ and hear God's promise to be with us in every sorrow. Then after worship from 12-1:30pm, all are welcome for a drive-up blessing. We will be stationed outside of the east sanctuary doors on Lemont St and offer a blessing to those who drive by. Please wear a mask.

BETHANY TEXTS — Would you like to receive a word of encouragement via text as a midweek faith lift? Or how about a reminder about Bethany happenings? Sign-up to receive Bethany Texts by texting the word "LOVESERVE" to 84576. You will have an option to join different text groups: Faith Lift (scripture/prayer), Children & Family, Study Group.

BOOK CLUB will meet on Wednesday, October 21st at 1PM on Bethany's lawn (or in the Community Room if inclement weather). Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout is the selected book. Bring your chair and lunch if you like and wear a mask.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

We are collecting pictures of our dearly departed for a video to be shared at our All Saints Service on Sunday, November 1. Please send one picture per deceased person so you may need to coordinate with your family. Multiple generations are welcome, but in that case, group pictures will be helpful. Please email to prelainsalmon@gmail.com. Pictures are due by Sunday, October 25. As we look towards this special celebration, we will also have a brief outdoor service at Bethany's Cemetery following worship. More specific details to come.

Please join us for the **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** of Bethany Lutheran Church (via Zoom) on Sunday, November 22nd following our 10:30 worship service. According to our constitution, voting members are confirmed members who have communed in this congregation and have made a contribution of record over the past year. Ten percent of voting members shall constitute a quorum. Illinois State Law allows for virtual meetings for all organizations. Since our constitution does not expressly forbid a virtual meeting, we can legally proceed with a meeting on Zoom.

RACISM STUDY — Our study group learned so much that we decided to continue with once a month meetings to further our understanding and to continue to practice talking about this challenging topic. You are welcome to join us. Our next study group will meet on Wednesday, October 28 at 7:30pm via Zoom. Our assignment for the day is the Frontline Episode called "Policing the Police 2020."

ELECTRONIC GIVING is available to support Bethany Church. It is fast, easy and secure. You can schedule a weekly or monthly contribution that is automatically debited from your savings or checking account. Make a one-time donation to a special fund; even direct the gift in honor or in memory of someone. Visit our website: bethanylemont.org and click the Donate button on the homepage.

DONATIONS TO THE OPEN PANTRY were received from Kris & Joe Falese, John & Jennifer Davis, Don & Patty Krengiel, Lois Miller, Tom Richardson, Don & Bernadette Turner, Church of the Transfiguration, Lemont Environmental Advisory Commission, Matthew & Elizabeth Clarage and The Presbyterian Church in Orland Park.

Acknowledgements

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